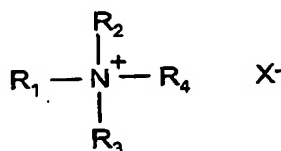


Attorney's Docket: 2002DE442
 Serial No.: 10/537,558
 Art Unit: 1621
 Response to Office Action of 6/27/2007

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Previously Presented) A quaternary ammonium composition consisting essentially of

a) a cationic compound with general formula:



wherein R_1 is C_8 - C_{22} -alkyl, C_8 - C_{22} -alkenyl, C_8 - C_{22} -alkylamidopropyl, C_8 - C_{22} -alkenyl-amidopropyl, C_8 - C_{22} -alkyl/alkenyl(poly)alkoxyalkyl, C_8 - C_{22} -alkanoyl ethyl or C_8 - C_{22} -alkenoyl ethyl, R_2 and R_3 are C_1 - C_{22} -alkyl, C_2 - C_{22} -alkenyl and R_4 is a group of the formula $-A-(OA)_n-OH$, A is $-C_2H_4-$ and/or $-C_3H_6-$, n is a number from 0 to 20 and X is an anion,

- b) less than 20 % by weight of water based on said composition and
- c) a non-ionic solvent selected from the group consisting of an alcohol or an ethoxylated alcohol with the general formula $R-O-(AO)_nH$, where R is alkyl or alkenyl group containing 8 to 22 carbon atoms, A is C_2H_4 or C_3H_6 and mixtures thereof, and n is a number from 0 to 20, nonylphenol or ethoxylated nonylphenol with the general formula C_8H_{18} -phenyl- $O-(AO)_nH$, where A and n are as defined above, and mixtures thereof.

2. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, which contains 5 to 60 % by weight of the cationic compound a).

Attorney's Docket: 2002DE442

Serial No.: 10/537,558

Art Unit: 1621

Response to Office Action of 6/27/2007

3.(Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the cationic compound a) is an C₈-C₂₂-alkyl or C₈-C₂₂-alkenyl-dimethyl-hydroxyethyl ammonium.

4.(Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, which has 40 to 95 % by weight of the non-ionic solvent c).

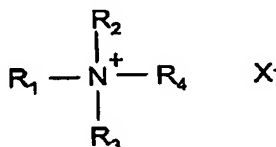
5.(Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, which has less than 5% of by-products.

6.(Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, which the non-ionic solvent is selected from the group consisting of an ethoxylated fatty alcohol, a fatty alcohol, a polyethylene glycol, a polypropylene glycol, a block co-polymer of ethylene and propylene, a nonylphenol, an ethoxylated nonylphenol, and a mixture thereof.

7.(Canceled)

7/8.(Currently Amended) A process for preparing a quaternary ammonium composition consisting essentially of

a) a cationic compound with general formula:



Attorney's Docket: 2002DE442

Serial No.: 10/537,558

Art Unit 1621

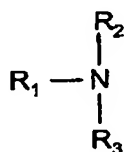
Response to Office Action of 6/27/2007

wherein R_1 is C_8 - C_{22} -alkyl, C_8 - C_{22} -alkenyl, C_8 - C_{22} -alkylamidopropyl, C_8 - C_{22} -alkenyl-amidopropyl, C_8 - C_{22} -alkyl/alkenyl(poly)alkoxyalkyl, C_8 - C_{22} -alkanoylethyl or C_8 - C_{22} -alkenoylethyl, R_2 and R_3 are C_1 - C_{22} -alkyl, C_2 - C_{22} -alkenyl, R_4 is a group of the formula $-A-(OA)_nOH$ wherein A is $-C_2H_4-$ or $-C_3H_6-$, or a mixture thereof, n is a number from 0 to 20 and X is an anion,

- b) less than 20 % by weight of water based on said composition and
- c) a non-ionic solvent selected from the group consisting of an alcohol or an ethoxylated alcohol with the general formula $R-O-(AO)_nH$, where R is alkyl or alkenyl group containing 8 to 22 carbon atoms, A is C_2H_4 or C_3H_6 and mixtures thereof, and n is a number from 0 to 20, nonylphenol or ethoxylated nonylphenol with the general formula C_8H_{19} -phenyl- $O-(AO)_nH$, where A and n are as defined above, and mixtures thereof,

said process comprising:

reacting an amine of the formula



wherein R_1 is C_8 - C_{22} -alkyl, C_8 - C_{22} -alkenyl, C_8 - C_{22} -alkylamidopropyl, C_8 - C_{22} -alkenyl-amidopropyl, C_8 - C_{22} -alkyl/alkenyl(poly)alkoxyalkyl, C_8 - C_{22} -alkanoylethyl or C_8 - C_{22} -alkenoylethyl, R_2 and R_3 are C_1 - C_{22} -alkyl, C_2 - C_{22} -alkenyl or a group of the formula $-A-(OA)_n-OH$, wherein A is $-C_2H_4-$ or $-C_3H_6-$, or a mixture thereof, and n is a number from 0 to 20 with an inorganic monohalo acid, and

Attorney's Docket: 2002DE442

Serial No.: 10/537,556

Art Unit 1821

Response to Office Action of 6/27/2007

[[then]] further reacting the ammonium salt thus obtained with ethylene oxide or propylene oxide or a mixture thereof to provide said quaternary ammonium composition.

8 ⁷ 8.(Previously Presented) The process of claim ⁷ 7, wherein the amine is C₈-C₂₂-alkyl or C₈-C₂₂-alkenyl-dimethyl amine, or mixtures thereof.

9 ⁷ 9.(Previously Presented) The process of claim ⁷ 8, wherein the monohalo acid is aqueous, hydrochloric acid.

10 ⁷ 10.(Previously Presented) The process of claim ⁷ 9, wherein the ammonium salt is reacted with ethylene oxide.

11 ⁷ 11.(Previously Presented) The process of claim ⁷ 10, wherein the non ionic solvent is a C₁₂/C₁₄/C₁₆ alcohol polyglycol having 7 EO units.

12 ⁷ 12.(Previously Presented) The process of claim ⁷ 11, wherein the first step is proceed in a temperature between 20 and 100°C.

13 ⁷ 13.(Previously Presented) The process of claim ⁷ 12, wherein the second step is proceeded in a temperature between 40 and 100°C.

Attorney's Docket: 2002DE442Serial No.: 10/537,536Art Unit 1821Response to Office Action of 8/27/2007

14

7

15. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 8, wherein the amine is C₈-C₂₂-alkyl or C₈-C₂₂-alkenyl-dimethyl amine, or mixtures thereof.